

Application No.: 10/759,746

17355CIP4 (BOT)

Fernandez-Salas, E., et al., Methods of Identifying Compounds that  
Alter Toxin Persistence and/or Protease Activity

**PATENT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/759,746

Applicant: Fernandez-Salas, E., et al.

Confirmation No.: 6885

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Customer No.: 51957

Patent Title: Methods of Identifying  
Compounds that Alter Toxin Persistence and/or  
Protease Activity

**FILED ELECTRONICALLY**

**APPLICANTS' REPLY**

December 21, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

This 30 page communication is responsive to a Final Office Action mailed October 3, 2006. The Office Action has been carefully considered, and the Applicants have the following comments:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of the Applicants' Reply and are reflected in the listing of claims.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of the Applicants' Reply.